GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4052
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2008
REVIVAL PACKAGE FOR PLANTATIONS
Sujatha Smt. C.S.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned a revival package for plantations;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of plantations considered for the package, State-wise during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has received separate proposals from the Government of Kerala for taking over of closed/abandoned tea plantations in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Yes, Sir, a rehabilitation package for closed tea gardens was announced in June 2007.

(b) The package provides for restructuring of the outstanding bank loans, waiver of Tea Board loans and extension of fresh working capital from banks with interest subsidy from Government and other admissible assistance under various Plan schemes of Tea Board. There were 33 closed tea gardens as on 01.4.2007. 11 of these have since opened.

(c)& (d) The proposals for revival of closed/abandon tea plantations received from the various quarters including the State Government of Kerala, were considered by the Government before announcing the aforesaid rehabilitation package.